



THE OPPORTUNITY

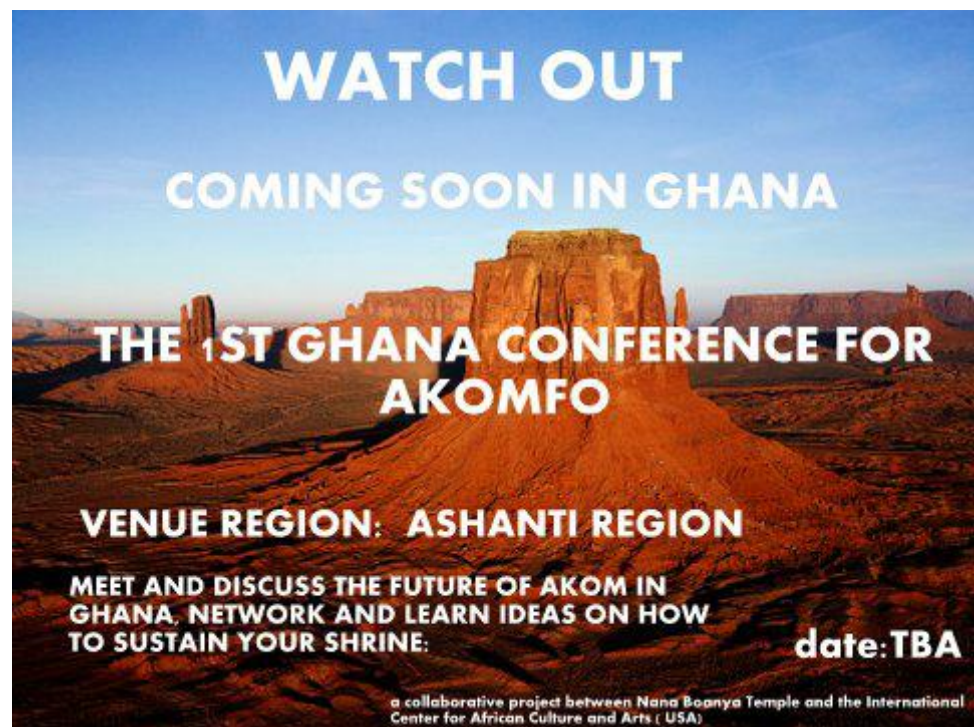
Why a Conference for Nananom?

The history of Culture and National Development in Ghana written mostly by "International and local) have relegated to the background the important role the African Traditional Faith and Religious practices played in the pre-colonial time to play in a post independent Ghana. With so many factors fighting against African spirituality and its practice in Ghana, Akom has come under attack from many is to mobilize our collective efforts to have a United Front, Preserve the Tradition Progressive Arc for Development and Contributions to Nation Health Delivery Affairs as well as To Educate the Public about our continued relevance in today' A trained and graduate Okomfo is a responsible person who is also a parent, teacher, lawyer, advocate, counselor, bread winner, family head, village leader, community manager, peace maker, conflict prevention and mediation specialist as well as traditional physician with extensive knowledge of alternative healing practices and herbal medicine. Okomfo's role in health care delivery in Ghana and as a general contributor of progress towards poverty alleviation and improving quality of life for the people and the country therefore, cannot be underestimated.

Though the attacks on Traditional Religious Faith practice has been on for a while the olden days worked without so many challenges which are prevalent in the 21st century. Competition for devotees for the Traditional shrines, congregations for the churches for the Mosques were done in a respectful diplomatic manner. No particular religion it a onerous duty to attack another or subject one to humiliating experience in a democracy. Today, things have changed and the Okomfo is under attack from the advent of private radio, TV, mass media in Ghana and modern media such as social media. Akomfo institution has been discriminated against, attacked verbally, emotionally and psychologically by so called men of God (Christians) who think that their primary success and the import of their call is to ATTACK Nananom. For example, many songs make derogatory attacks on Akom. Commercial Radio christian minister

attack Akomfo as dirty, illiterates,evil practitioners and demon worshipers during radio evangelism ministrations. All these been false allegations and accusations. Historical records of the important role of the Okomfo as being a spiritual eye and a founding of many communities in Ghana and as protectors of the culture together with leaders abound. With the so called civilization today which is translated via the term.."modern world"....respect for the traditions and community leaders is undervalued. Recent events in Ghana can be cited as an example where a christian minister Osei Kwame publicly attacked the great Asante kingdom and its leaders by making challenging and disrespectful remarks about the King of Asante.

Conversations such as the urgency for a united front is necessary for the institution of Akomfo suffered for a long time. It is time that such conferences which is being planned is an affair to take place to prepare the way for important national religious dialogue and a strong active voice in national affairs.



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